

Looking ahead to September Students can expect to pay more for tuition

By Paul Tuns

Conestoga College is looking at ways to deal with provincial cut-backs and the board of governors and the administration are putting virtually everything on the table.

Kevin Mullan, vice-president of finance and administration, outlined management's general strategy at the college's board of governors meeting on Jan. 22.

"Too many colleges are looking at the dollar value, the bottom line and not at what kind of college they want to be in three years," Mullan said.

The college's hands are not entirely free to handle what Mullan called "an even more complex than usual budget process."

The province has limited tuition increases to 15 per cent but has stipulated that 10 per cent of the increase must go to a local bursary-scholarship fund.

A student with tuition fees of \$1,109 this year will have to pay

\$1,275 next year. But Mullan said the college will only receive \$1,258 as \$17 will go to the bursary-scholarship fund.

"The students are, in effect, funding their own scholarships," Mullan said.

Scholarships are expected to assist those most hurt by the cut-backs, he added.

Student services will be cut back but specifics are not yet ready to be discussed.

Administration is consulting with the DSA and other internal groups about what services and what levels of services are necessary.

Mullan said library services on some of the campuses are being looked at closely.

Full library services may not be necessary on campuses other than Doon and he said it is likely the other campus libraries will be scaled back providing only trade or program specific materials.

As students brace for possible user fees elsewhere in the commu-

nity, Mullan said he wants to stay away from incidental fees.

"Incidental fees will be a last resort. Already the number one reason people leave college is financial. We don't want people to leave because they can't afford to stay here. And increased costs will also hurt our ability to recruit."

Mullan said decisions about services are expected to be made in about two months.

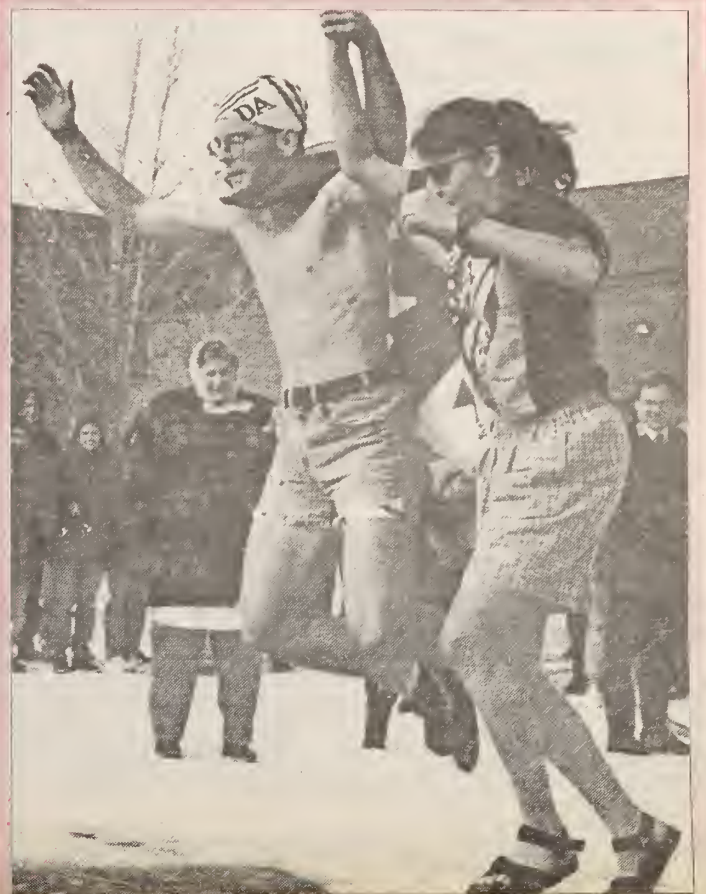
Down-sizing is also being planned.

The administration is currently examining applicants for early leave or early retirement on a case-by-case basis.

"We have certain criteria that will be followed in determining who can leave," Mullan said.

"We don't want to have a situation like the University of Waterloo where half the engineering department is gone. That defeats the purpose of the whole exercise if you have to hire someone else to replace them."

Taking the plunge



Ryan Camp and Heather Ellis plunge into the Doon campus pond Feb. 1, for Conestoga's fund-raising Polar Plunge for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

(Photo by Robert Klager)

Changes expected College cut-backs require close look at alternatives

By Robert Klager

Amid recent announcements made by some Ontario colleges regarding program cut-backs and cancellations, Conestoga College's registrar assures that the college will do its best to maintain a commitment to providing students with a full complement of programs, while continuing to serve the community.

Fred Harris made no hard guarantees, but did reiterate college president John Tibbits' message that the school will not employ slash-and-burn tactics on academic programs in order to meet budget cuts.

"I think I can honestly say there's been no serious discussions regarding major changes at this point."

In likening Conestoga's cut-back strategies to micro-surgery, Harris said there will indeed be changes, but on a comparatively smaller scale than at some institutions.

Just recently it was announced that three of the college's certificate programs in the trades area have been suspended for 1996.

However, Harris attributes that more to weak enrolment than budget cuts.

Other programs, Harris said, may become smaller, but they will still exist. One proposal being considered involves the modification of program delivery.

Alternative delivery can take many forms and the college is reviewing several of them, he said.

"There's a tendency in education to believe we're paying money for access to an individual. We pay for an array of things — one of which may be access to a teacher — but why not just use the access to materials?"

Harris suggested that if done properly, alternative delivery could do away with weekly three- or four-hour classes of 30, while still providing the opportunity for a student with questions or problems to tap into a teacher.

"Personally, I believe if you have an excellent library and you can read well, that's all you need to learn," he said. "But it all depends on learning style and discipline."

Like all things, Harris said, some people will think it's wonderful and others will hate it.

Regardless of the form alternative delivery takes, he said, success depends on maintaining the important aspect of providing students with support despite cut-backs.

Inevitably, personnel will be cut, an action Harris said results from 85 per cent of budgets being tied up in salaries.

"When you have to cut, unfortunately you have to cut people. That's the only way you can save money."

It's a tough issue, he said, and requires that the college look at other cost-saving measures.

One way students will contribute is through increased tuition.

The provincial government is allowing a 15 per cent hike in fees, and while not confirming any numbers or dates, Harris said he believes the college will go with the full 15 per cent, effective September 1996.

Harris cautions people not to take the need for financial reform lightly, even though Conestoga may not be hit as hard as other institutions.

"I think this college will come out of this in very good shape. We've been very fortunate, keeping the budget on an even keel in recent years, eliminating whatever debt there was and building up an operating surplus."

But people get the notion that everything is okay, and everything is not okay. We still need to cut \$4 million from our operating budget."

Harris said the very fact the college is not rushing into hacking up academic programs means they will sit down and carefully consider where changes are going to take place.

"I think Conestoga will come out of this with a wide-range of programming, if not identical, very similar to what we have now," he concluded.

This week in the news

Marketing group asked to leave campus

A marketing company displaying credit card brochures on campus didn't comply with college regulations and was asked to refrain from further advertising, according to Barry Milner, manager of physical resources.

For details see page 2

Dental program receives boost

Conestoga College's dental office administration program received a \$5,000 donation from a local dental society on Feb. 2. Funds from the donation will be used to purchase textbooks, periodicals and audio-visual materials.

For details see page 2

Ashley McIsaac sells out at Lulu's

Ashley McIsaac played for a sold-out crowd at Lulu's on Friday, Feb. 2, where he performed his alternative, albeit traditional, style of fiddle music to a crowd of all ages.

For details see page 13

Condors clobber mediocre Auks

The Conestoga Condors traveled to Lindsay Feb. 1, blowing away the Sir Sanford Fleming Auks, 14-4 in a lopsided contest.

For details see page 16

CAMPUS NEWS

News editor: Jeannette Cantin 748-5366

News Briefs

Women's resource group

- The women's resource group is having a meeting to discuss planning for International Women's Week. For those interested, the group is meeting in room 1B50-3 at Doon campus, Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 3:30 p.m.

Alumni kisses

- St. Valentine's Day is close, so the Alumni Association is getting warmed up with a day called Sealed With Alumni Kisses (SWAK). Red carnations and Hershey kisses will be sold Feb. 14.
- The DSA office has tickets for the Valentine's bash at Whiskey Jack's nightclub in Kitchener on Feb. 13. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door.

Homegrown talent day

- The DSA and the Roost Sports Bar present Homegrown Talent Day, Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the Roost Sports Bar. The spotlight will be on solo artists, duos and groups; however, each entry must have a minimum of one full-time student enrolled at Conestoga.

CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 5 edition of Spoke, the second page story, *College to spend money on Sanctuary furniture*, is mistitled. In fact, it is the DSA, not the college, purchasing the furniture. Spoke regrets the error.

Students to pay extra for photocopying rights

By Allison Dempsey

Starting in September 1996, all full-time students at Conestoga College will have an extra \$2.50 a year added to student fees for the right to photocopy certain materials in the library, said Laura Eaglesham, the college's director of finance.

CANCOPY (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency), is a non-profit organization formed by Canadian writing and publishing agencies to protect the authors and publishers of printed works which may be copied for use in both the library and bookstore.

The college signed a licence agreement with CANCOPY in September 1995. Eaglesham is also Conestoga's contact person and in charge of dealing with questions and distributing information about the program.

"CANCOPY is a really new program, and one we have to have at the college to avoid a lawsuit," Eaglesham said.

The licence allows students and staff access to numerous copyright materials, including books, magazines and newspapers.

The fee also allows for copying onto slides, microfiche and into alternate forms of material for the visually impaired.

The college has already paid the \$12,500 fee to cover students this year, she said.

Next year the students will be responsible for the cost.

The Copyright Act has previously covered the college under "fair dealing," a provision which allows material to be photocopied for the use of education and research.

Institutions have been working under "fair dealing" for years, but

"there are always grey areas in copyright," Eaglesham said. "CANCOPY is more defined."

CANCOPY makes a definite distinction between copies made for personal use, and copies made for sale.

Students and staff may copy up to 10 per cent of a published work, or a single chapter for themselves if it comprises less than 20 per cent of the entire work. But if the copies made are to be sold in the campus bookstore, the rules are more restricted.

According to the agreement, extracts made from textbooks cannot exceed five per cent, or a single chapter of a textbook, and not more than 50 per cent of the pages in the final product can be taken from textbooks.

For photocopied material to be sold in the bookstore, information about the author, publisher and the exact number of pages copied must be accurately logged.

The bookstore then remits 3.5 cents per page to CANCOPY on a quarterly basis.

Royalties are then paid to the authors and publishers protected under the act.

Eaglesham said teachers should use the CANCOPY stamp provided at photocopiers in the college to give credit to the authors and publishers of the works which are being copied.

Although the rules of the CANCOPY agreement are based entirely on trust between the agency and the institutions involved, Eaglesham said she has heard of representatives checking out photocopied material on larger university campuses.

But so far, she has not heard of any charges being laid.

Marketing group asked to leave Doon campus

By Allison Dempsey

A marketing company that displayed credit card brochures on campus did not comply with Conestoga's regulations and was asked to leave the campus, says Barry Milner, manager of physical resources.

The company, which Milner declined to name, paid the college a small commission in return for an advertising spot by the bookstore. But local company representatives posted brochures all over campus, creating unnecessary clean-up work for college employees, said Milner.

"We spoke with the company and asked them to refrain, to use only the display board," said Milner. "But they continued to display in other areas and we ended up with brochures all over the floors. It was an appearance we were not happy with. The staff had to take time to clean them up."

The problem resulted in a review with the housekeeping staff. Various operations within the college

also reviewed the problem, and the behavior was deemed not acceptable. Milner said the credit card applications' return was not worth the problems the college experienced. He then asked the company not to distribute any more brochures, and the company complied.

"We wondered if we should even be allowing companies to entice students into getting involved with credit cards, which can lead to more debts and other problems," said Milner.

"But should we censor the students and what they should be doing? That can be debated until the end of time."

In other business, Dave Putt, the director of physical resources, responded to an anonymous criticism that the clocks are always inaccurate, by saying he knows of only one clock in the college that is not working properly.

He said the campus used to be on a master clock system before the addition of the business wing. That system began to fall apart in the 1970s, and three years ago the col-

lege bought a new digital master system. During the last 18 months the clocks in the hallways have been gradually replaced. The business wing is on the master clock system, and the clocks in the nursing wing, the faculty area off the cafeteria and the classroom addition in the technology wing are all run by batteries. Putt said the batteries are changed once a year.

"One clock on the second floor of the business wing has been giving us some problems," said Putt. "But it is still under warranty, so we're trying to get it fixed." The rest of the clocks should be in sync within one minute of each other, he said.

Putt said although he has had complaints over the years about the old clocks, he has had no complaints so far. He said 70 to 80 new clocks were purchased along with the new system three or four years ago, and it takes an electrician about two hours to replace each clock.

"Strange clocks will cause problems," said Putt. "And dead batteries."

Conestoga's dental program is given a \$5,000 donation

By Heather Milburn Graham

Conestoga's dental office administration program has received a \$5,000 donation from the Waterloo-Wellington Dental Society.

The cheque was presented Feb. 2 to college president John Tibbits by society president Dr. James Robertson of Kitchener, and treasurer Dr. Jeffrey Matyas of Galt.

"We do not traditionally give money to institutions outside the immediate dental field," said Robertson. "We feel this program is not only related to it, but will help improve the dental community."

Also at the presentation were Bill Jeffrey, Conestoga's dean of health sciences, and Robert Baddeley, director of allied health studies at Niagara.

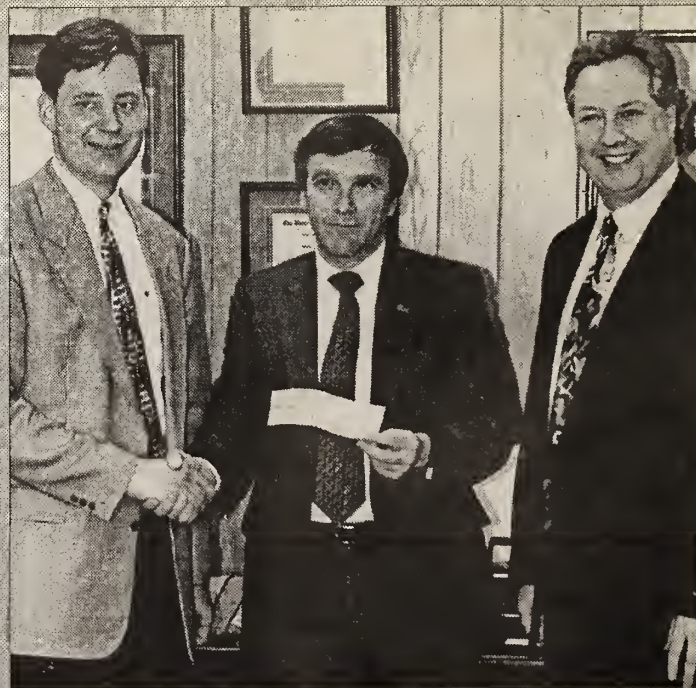
Jeffrey said approximately \$3,100 of the donation has already been used to purchase a nine-volume video series on dental terminology, periodicals, journals and dental textbooks.

He said the remainder will be used on other related resources.

"These resources are available to anyone in the dental field, not just students in the program," Baddeley said.

The program began in September 1995, after an agreement was articulated to amalgamate Niagara's dental science program with Conestoga's business program, producing a course that would teach front-office management skills needed in the dental field.

Instead of obtaining approval from the Ministry of Education to create a dental curriculum at



Dr. Jeffrey Matyas (l) and Dr. James Robertson (r), treasurer and president of the Waterloo-Wellington Dental society respectively, present a cheque to Conestoga president John Tibbits, to be used for the college's dental office administration program.

(Photo by Heather Milburn Graham)

Conestoga, it was agreed that Conestoga would manage 60 per cent of the business courses, set up on a set of equivalencies from Niagara.

The other 40 per cent would be pure dental science courses, also obtained at Conestoga, but set up through a specific course outline provided by Niagara.

"The articulation of Niagara's program with Conestoga's was a cost-efficient way of bringing two colleges together," Jeffrey said.

The program focuses on three main areas: human relation skills,

dental knowledge and terminology, as well as computers and bookkeeping, Baddeley said.

"Training staff in a dental office can be quite an undertaking," said Jeffrey. "They are the key to a successful office."

The certificate-level program runs for 27 weeks on a full-time basis and currently has 26 students enrolled.

The program can also be obtained on a part-time basis through continuing education. Jeffrey said, however, it could take up to five years to complete course requirements this way.

CAMPUS NEWS

Vandalism increases in parking lots

Parking lot thieves target expensive items

By Allison Dempsey

A rash of automobile break-ins in Conestoga's parking lots has caused college community services to post reminders around the buildings warning drivers to lock their doors and place all valuables out of sight.

Barry Milner, the manager of physical resources, said Bob Gilberds of the security staff is gathering data about the vandalism of cars versus their proximity to parking lot lights, and whether one lot is being targeted more than the others.

"There was a rash of problems in the parking lots about four or five years ago, and it appears we're being targeted again," said Milner. "The procedures are the same. These people are after valuable items such as compact disc players, and items left exposed on seats."

Milner said car windows are being smashed if the car is not easy to break into. In one case, the car door was unlocked, but the thieves did not notice and smashed the window

anyway. Milner said he encourages students to take precautions, and self-directed initiatives are the best measures of protection.

"These people know what's easy and what's not easy to break into," said Milner. "They're spending time and looking for specifics, exactly the items they want."

He said there has been increased security and more patrols in the lots. The break-ins have occurred both during the day and evening hours.

The college works with Crime Stoppers, the program designed to stop crime through citizens' tips, and Milner said he encourages any individuals who may have information about the vandalism to come forward with their knowledge.

"They can pass on tips anonymously, and we encourage them to do so about any burglaries or vandalism anywhere on the campus, not just in the parking lots," said Milner.

Another matter of concern for Milner is the fire alarm that went off

the morning of Thursday, Jan. 25. "That was not a planned drill," said Milner. "It sent people out of the building in a cold situation. The weather was not conducive to being outside, and we didn't know whether the alarm was real or not."

There was a complete investigation into the effects of the false alarm, including examining the classes that had tests, exams or presentations scheduled.

Milner said the college holds fire drills twice a year, at the beginning of the fall and winter semesters. They are arranged through the dean of the campus and academic administration. The dates are also worked out with the faculty so no tests are planned for those weeks.

A lot of planning goes into fire drills, said Milner. "We try to give people flexibility. We try to watch the long-term weather forecast to make it better for everyone."

Milner said if anyone has any information about the false alarm, to contact the college or Crime Stoppers.

Safety first



Registered nursing student, Jena Taylor, promotes safe sex at a display in the main hallway Jan. 31. During the day-long exhibit, Taylor handed out pamphlets and condoms provided by the Waterloo Region Health Unit and AACKWA, the local AIDS-awareness group.

(Photo by Barbara Walden)

Proposed education cuts could benefit ECE

By Johanna Neufeld

If John Snobelen has his way education will be back to basics but with a twist.

The Ontario minister of education announced plans to replace junior kindergarten teachers Jan. 19 with early childhood educators as part of the cost-cutting measures outlined in his "tool kit" of reforms. The government plans to announce these reforms in February and to follow up with legislation this spring.

Donna McKenna, chair of Early Childhood Education (ECE) at Conestoga College said in an interview that she needed more time to look at the implications of Snobelen's tool kit in order to understand what the minister is saying.

She said they are just recommendations right now and it's difficult to react because they haven't become policy.

"Obviously, it's driven for economic reasons so it might be the right decision for the wrong reasons but I really have to have some more time to think about it," she said. "You can bet there's going to be some strong reaction from the teacher federation. Oh, I'm sure it'll be loud and clear."

Al Forler, chair of the Waterloo County board of education said in a telephone interview, he did not like the idea of replacing junior kindergarten teachers and said his first concern was the training and capabilities of the ECE educators put in those positions.

"My concern would be that if the expectation to deliver the program

as presently delivered by the people as well trained as they are, I don't know whether the ECE people could necessarily handle that," Forler said.

He said teachers spend four years in university along with specialized training as opposed to just two years in college.

Karol Czarniecki, president of the Waterloo branch of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association said in a telephone interview he was not in favor of the idea. Czarniecki said the Waterloo Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board has approximately 48 elementary schools and employs 68 part and full-time junior kindergarten teachers. He said if ECE educators were to eventually fill kindergarten positions, he would have more than 100 teachers out of

work.

The Waterloo county board has about 100 elementary schools but the board has decided not to provide junior kindergarten, said Forler, because of reduced government funding.

Asked if he thought this trend to replace teachers would continue, Forler said it could happen but the board would have to follow what the government dictates.

Snobelen has already cut \$400 million from education in the province and intends to reduce the budget by another \$800 million. McKenna said she expected there would be increased employment opportunities for ECE graduates but said it's still in the recommendation stage.

She said salaries for ECE educators range anywhere from \$16,000

to \$32,000 or \$35,000 depending on where they work.

First-year teachers with the Waterloo county board earn approximately \$30,000 to \$36,800 depending on a general or honors university degree and specialization certificates, said Forler.

The chair said quality of the program was very important to him.

"If you say well look I can hire a teacher at \$40,000 but I can hire somebody else at \$32,000, I know they can't teach but that's like hiring a hockey player to play for the Toronto Maple Leafs that you know is not the quality that you want but you get them for less money," he said.

Teachers are better trained today because they need to be, Forler said, as education has become more complex than it was years ago.

Loud Sanctuary nooners a concern for LRC

By Jeannette Cantin

The DSA is working towards the resolution of a problem regarding nooners — noise complaints.

When Gary McGill played Jan. 9, it wasn't only the crowd in the Sanctuary that got to hear the band. The sound also travelled to the room above it, which happens to be the Learning Resource Centre (LRC).

Two complaints were made during the show. As a result, the volume was turned down, according to entertainment assistant Gavin FitzPatrick.

While not disputing that noise is not congruent with "library things," FitzPatrick added, "for what the event was, the sound

wasn't that loud. It was rock 'n' roll."

FitzPatrick said moderate volume was not what the room was intended for.

The college, through physical resources, had the lounge built for the DSA as part of a building overhaul. Nooners used to be held in the cafeteria, and the use of the new lounge to feature live acts was taken into consideration during construction.

David Putt, the college's director of physical resources, said everything possible was done to stop sound. Double doors act as a sound-trap, he said, as do doubled, insulated walls.

Putt said he suspects the problem is the concrete slab in the ceiling of

the room, which, over a certain sound level, would act as a speaker and vibrate.

Putt said it couldn't have been done any differently without lowering the ceiling considerably. Even then, he added, there is extensive duct-work in the ceiling, which limits the amount of sound absorbing material that can be placed between the levels.

To construct a solution to the problem would cost anywhere between \$10,000 and \$20,000 and would require pulling down the entire ceiling.

Putt said the soundproofing details of the room are successful, and the easiest solution to the current problem would be to turn the volume down.

When the Groove Daddys were scheduled to perform Jan. 30, FitzPatrick said he knew volume would be an issue. He said he informed Linda Krotz, campus administrator, and staff at the LRC the show was to take place, and acknowledged the noise problem.

That solution was not satisfactory for some library patrons and staff.

"I think it's rather ridiculous to put the lounge under the library," said Judy Knetsch, a management-studies student who was in the LRC during the nooner. "It makes it hard to concentrate."

Others using the library, such as general business student Terry Dupuis, said they didn't mind the noise. The quiet study rooms

seemed to be unaffected.

Krotz initially brought the problem to the DSA's attention. When asked for comment during the Groove Daddys' performance, she said she appreciated being contacted by FitzPatrick, but as a solution, it "wasn't satisfactory at all."

The problem, she added, is one of providing adequate service. The nooners coincide with the LRC's busiest time. Krotz said she doesn't understand why the volume needs to be that high. "You couldn't hear down there."

FitzPatrick said soundproofing the ceiling is prohibitively expensive, but said he is speaking with concerned parties and is confident a solution will be found to everyone's satisfaction.

OutSPOKEn Opinions



"Keeping Conestoga College connected"

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Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor at the above address by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect 5.0 file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).

Lives wasting away

Litter to see the waste we live in.

-Anonymous

This is not just some mindless graffiti sprayed on the walls of a dirty city. It's a reality, and a reminder that people don't care about their surroundings or themselves.

In a more literal sense, this could mean mankind is not concerned about the very source that offers it life.

What a waste of time living is, then, if we only exist to destroy ourselves.

Although many students at Conestoga show responsibility and respect for their environment, many others have decided it's their God-given right to destroy their private space on campus by leaving their garbage thrown, or ignored on couches, chairs, floors and tables of the Sanctuary.

It doesn't matter how it gets there, it's garbage and it belongs in a garbage can. Consequently the Sanctuary has become wasted space to many. Not only does the lounge look like a pigpen, it smells like one too. Perhaps a better word would be playpen. Students are acting like children by their refusal to accept responsibility.

The DSA has spent over \$30,000 to provide students with a comfortable place to spend time and relax while they're not in class.

Everything from a separate video, quiet and resource room to entertainment equipment including pool, foose ball and air-hockey tables, a stage and sound system, as well as a wide-screen television have been installed. Yet, here it is only eight weeks into the current semester and the lounge already needs a thorough cleaning because it has been so badly soiled from the garbage.

The DSA was also granted permission to provide approximately \$12,700 worth of furniture for the lounge. This is due to the fact that some of the furniture in the lounge can't hold up under the abuse it receives from the lounge's patrons. Maybe a bunch of concrete blocks and a cement floor would be more appropriate for this crowd.

The lack of respect for the Sanctuary stems from the fact that students were provided the lounge too easily. They did nothing to earn it. Perhaps responsibility only occurs when people have to work to get what they want.

Perhaps it would be appropriate to charge students a damage deposit fee of approximately \$50 each semester. An assessment could be done by the DSA lounge committee at the end of each semester and damages could be repaired by using money from the security fund. Perhaps students would appreciate and respect the lounge if they had money invested in its safety.

Although the DSA has had only good intentions in providing students with a lounge, maybe it should treat students like adults, stop catering to their every whim and have them earn their way.

Just a thought



By Linda Yovanovich

Everybody pucker up, it's St. Valentine's Day

A friend recently expressed some angst over buying a St. Valentine's Day present for her new special someone. I strongly believe she is not alone in her frustration.

For many people, buying gifts for their loved ones can be a painful experience. St. Valentine's Day can be particularly bad because it's usually associated with romantic stuff. If you're in a new relationship there can be an added pressure of avoiding sending the wrong message. Such messages, no matter how they are intended, could be "Let's get married - NOW" or "Let's just be good friends." Both can lead to messy endings of once-good relationships.

I suppose in a truly healthy relationship such misunderstandings can be avoided easily. But for those of us who have not perfected the art of mind-reading, there is always room for mistakes.

Everyone's worst nightmare is handing your one and only a gift you've spent days, if not weeks, searching for, only to find the first expression across his or her face after opening it is one you would imagine on a bug about to hit a windshield.

Taste has a lot to do with successful gift-giving. When it comes to buying items of clothing for your loved one, there is always the chance that you'll buy something very nice — according to you taste — which your mate thinks is hideous.

Taste aside, however, there is the problem

with sizes. Guys have it particularly tough in this case. If a guy buys his loved one something a size too big, he runs the risk of hearing: "Do I really look this fat?" Which would inevitably lead to a St. Valentine's night in the doghouse instead of in romantic bliss. On the other hand, if a guy buys his lady something that fits too small, he runs the risk of creating a diet-crazed monster. And sorry guys, a \$20-bill and a 'buy yourself something nice' doesn't cut it either.

The ladies don't have as tough a time. There isn't that age-old expectation of having to buy your fellow something nice and glittering.

Guys are usually happy to get anything remotely interesting. If it makes funny noises and takes a lot of batteries, you're probably safe. I've also found the higher the alcohol content of the gift, the better the response is to it.

Then there is intimate apparel — a.k.a. undies, naughties, gitch... — which is always a favorite for St. Valentine's Day. Let us not pursue this topic.

Like fruitcake at Christmas, there are the trusty 'If all else fails get a...' gifts, such as a box of chocolates or a dozen roses. Yawn.

These gifts leave little to the imagination and can be a sign that either you've been too busy to think about a gift, or you just haven't given it a thought.

Unfortunately, though, at the rate I'm going, my special someone is going to have to settle for a great big kiss — Hershey's that is.

Conestoga Corner



By Amanda Weber

Students face photocopying woes

How many times has this happened to you? You have two pages to photocopy for an assignment you are working on and there is someone ahead of you in line copying the entire works of Mark Twain.

Or you are about to copy study notes for a test you have the next day, but the machine only takes correct change, which is 15 cents, and you only have two dimes?

Making copies has never been an easy task, but it seems to be a real pain at Conestoga because the machine is either in great demand, needs correct change or is just out of service.

A photocopy may seem like a luxury to some, but for college students they are one of the necessities of life.

Without them, we would be spending more time in the library taking notes from books.

With the lack of copiers in the school, many students waste time waiting in line to make copies or searching for an available machine.

On the Doon campus, there are no machines on the third or fourth floors of the main building, so students unfortunate enough to be located on these two floors must travel to either the second floor or to the student lounge to make copies.

The library has two machines, which are in use the majority of the time. This makes it one of the hardest areas to try and make copies from if you are in a hurry.

You would probably be better off signing the book out, running down the hall to the machine

across from the vending machines (make sure you have correct change) and making the copies there.

Have you noticed there is no change machine in the library? If you need change to make copies, you have to trot down to the change machine located at Door 5 and get it before heading back to the library to wait in line for your turn. By the time you return, the entire population of the library is standing in line ahead of you.

One way to solve the change problem, would be to issue a copy-card to each student.

With the card, students could pay as much as they want and can make copies until the card reaches its limit. They are used in universities and they seem to work.

The photocopying machine situation here reminds me of the Saturday Night Live skit where the guy sits in the copy room, doing nothing but harassing people while they make copies.

Rob Schneider's character, Rich, had an amazing talent. He could make people hurry when they made their copies. Maybe Rich should visit Doon campus and help the students who are "making copies."

Some advice to first-time copiers, prepare for the wait (a bagged lunch/supper and pillow may not be a bad idea) and have correct change (break open the bank you've had since you were a child and stuff those pockets with nickels and dimes before heading off to make copies.)

TAKING SIDES

Should Conestoga College president John Tibbits earn over \$123,000 a year?

Tibbits earning his keep

By Perry Hagerman



If ever a college president was earning his salary, Conestoga's John Tibbits is.

Just ask the students of nursing at Toronto's Sheridan College who have had their program cancelled and the proverbial rug pulled out from under them.

Through possible mismanagement and lack of foresight, Sheridan found itself in a deficit position even before the provincial cut-backs. Once the cut-backs were announced, the college shut down the program forcing those students to seek out other institutions from which they can receive their diploma.

While Tibbits cannot take all of the credit for the current good financial standing of the college, he has played a major role. Recently, six Ontario colleges opened their financial books to the public. Of the six, only Conestoga had a budget surplus in the past fiscal year.

Over three years ago, Conestoga's top management had anticipated funding cuts and had been cutting costs. At that time, they were being called pessimists by other members of the college community. Now it seems prophetic and, as in the parable about the grasshopper and the ant, the grasshopper is getting squished.

Fanshawe College in London is a prime example of the grasshopper mentality. Three years ago, the college was having numerous disputes with its unions. Instead of confronting the issues, its management chose to deal with the problem by offering the union a "no layoffs" policy for three years. In exchange, the union would drop its more than 100 grievances.

With cuts in funding to various programs and declining student numbers, Fanshawe has been literally paying dozen of employees to do nothing. Not surprisingly, it has run up a deficit and has already killed its nursing program and will be laying off about 100 faculty in the next six months.

This example is just one of many which illustrates that it is possible to do a terrible job as college president.

As for the actual dollar figure of Tibbits' salary, it is best put into perspective by looking at the private industry. Tibbits is the equivalent of a chief executive officer (CEO) of a medium-sized corporation. With its annual budget exceeding \$40 million and a staff of over 400, Conestoga is a major economic player in the local economy. By private-industry standards, his salary is reasonable. If the college wants to recruit the best, it has to compete directly with private industry and offer comparable salaries.

Everyone at Conestoga benefits from the sound policy and financial leadership which has its roots in the president's office. Fortunately, for members of the Conestoga community, we are getting good value for our money.

campus comments

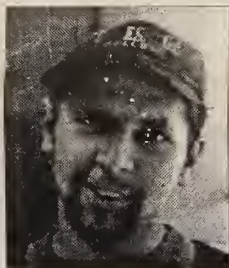


Yes. "Why not? Someone has to make the money."

Jack Moons
First-year electrical engineering technician

Yes. "As long as he donates one-third of it to us students."

Katia Hrienko
First-year law and security administration

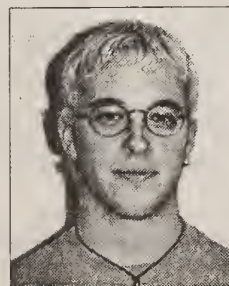


No. "The money should go towards benefiting college students."

Alex Budinski
Second-year mechanical engineering

No. "It's too much for a president. Lawyers shouldn't even make that much."

Suzanne Kraehling
Third-year accounting



No. "That's too much money. He can survive on less."

Chris Oliver
Second-year broadcasting

No. "It seems too much for what he is doing."

Brian Quak
First-year general arts and science



Money needed elsewhere



By Amy Wroblewski

In these times of financial strife and economic uncertainty, most people find themselves overworked and underpaid in the job they perform. Many face pay cuts or even unemployment.

But if you're the president of Conestoga College, you don't have to be too concerned about that.

It was announced a couple of weeks ago that Conestoga's president, John Tibbits, was the first to disclose his salary in anticipation of provincial legislation which will compel public-sector employees earning \$100,000 or more to reveal their incomes.

A college spokesman announced that Tibbits makes \$123,894 a year.

Tibbits does hold the college's top position, but is it worth \$123,894 a year?

With Mike Harris axing provincial funding, forcing colleges and universities to make drastic cuts, no one deserves to make that much.

Class sizes are being trimmed, staff are being offered buy-out packages to avoid eventual layoffs, and financial assistance to students is being slashed. These are just a few examples of the cut-backs educational institutions are being forced to make.

The salary Tibbits is pulling down could be better put to use in these hard times, possibly helping to balance the scales against funding cuts.

If Tibbits took even a slight pay cut, like many other Ontarians are being forced to do, the excess money could be re-invested into improving school resources.

Better yet, the money skimmed off the top of his salary could be used to help alleviate the looming threat of layoffs.

According to Statistics Canada, the average annual income in Ontario is about \$32,000. One doesn't need a calculator to figure out Tibbits salary is obviously way above the average.

To put this issue into further perspective, Tibbits is earning more than Patti Haskell, director of the Waterloo County board of education, who makes approximately \$118,000 plus benefits, and more than Bill Brown, director of the Waterloo Region separate school board, who makes about \$110,000 plus benefits.

Haskell, Brown and Tibbits are all involved in education. However, Haskell and Brown probably carry more responsibility than Tibbits in view of the number of schools, teachers and students they oversee. Yet Tibbits makes more in a year than either of them.

It is admirable that Tibbits was the first head of a local college or university to come forward to declare his earnings. Unfortunately, the fact remains that although Tibbits heads a large college, he is being paid far too much in these financially difficult times.

YES

Do you have any topical questions you want straight-forward answers to? Send them to the editor or staff in Room 4B15, or call SPOKE at 748-5366.

NO

CONESTOGA LIFE

Lifestyles editor: Samantha Craggs 748-5366

GLAD provides support system for Conestoga student

By Samantha Craggs

As Gays and Lesbians at Doon (GLAD) enters a new year, former social services student Amy Kingston, 21, says she is glad the group is there.

"There's always comfort in knowing I'm not the only one and that there are people who will listen and accept me for who I am," said Kingston, who is openly gay.

Kingston said the group had normalized her sexuality and helped her with her self-esteem. "It's a non-threatening environment and intelligent conversation."

She said the group embraces her lifestyle rather than discussing why she is a lesbian.

Kingston started attending meetings this fall after reading an advertisement for the group in Spoke.

She said student services counsellor Joan Magazine organized the first meeting, but the group is run by the members.

She said she was nervous the first

time she attended a meeting not knowing what to expect. But Kingston quickly found it was an opportunity to speak freely with understanding and accepting people. Members talk about social events, stigmas and how their week has been.

"It's pretty light. There is no revealing of deep, dark secrets or soul-searching. The focus of the group is to sit in a social atmosphere and enjoy yourself."

Most of the members are not people trying to come to terms with being gay, but rather people who have accepted the fact.

Regarding the de-



Amy Kingston, a former social services student, says GLAD helped improve her self-esteem.

(Photo by Samantha Craggs)

facing of GLAD posters during the group's birth, Kingston said it didn't bother her or deter her from attending.

"There's always a level of ignorance, and I don't expect everyone to accept homosexuality. Everyone has a right to free speech and those people do too."

She said it may be saying to other gay Conestoga students who are not as comfortable with their sexuality that homosexuality will not be accepted at the college and that coming out will result in ostracism and persecution.

Kingston said she has always known she was a lesbian, but

didn't tell people in high school for fear of suffering ostracism. She made the decision to reveal her sexuality a year ago, and is now completely comfortable with it.

She said she has had passing comments from people who snicker and those who have avoided her because she is a lesbian. "I try not to take it personally. If it's a total stranger, I let it roll off my back."

She encourages other gay students to attend GLAD meetings and to ignore feelings of guilt and fear. "It opens avenues you wouldn't find otherwise. Being a member of the gay community and finding gay friends doesn't come naturally. You have to learn it."

To students who are having a hard time coming out, Kingston said, "Cherish the people who care about you and love you the way you are. Surround yourself with those people. If you don't have support, go out and find it with groups like ACKWA, GLOW (Gays and Lesbians of Waterloo) and GLAD."

Foot patrol a step in right direction

By Barbara Walden

The Doon Student Association is taking a giant step towards providing a sense of security for those students who leave the campus after dark.

The DSA is in the planning stages of instituting a foot patrol program that will provide escorts to people walking to their vehicles in the parking lots at night.

The program, similar to those offered at the two universities in Waterloo, will also be available to students who live at Rodeway Suites.

The foot patrol will begin as a pilot project in mid-March and run until the end of the current semester, said April-Dawn Blackwell, DSA vice-president of student affairs.

It will operate Monday to Thursday from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Blackwell is seeking students to volunteer at least one night a week to work on a patrol team. She has approached the law and

security administration program to recruit interested workers, but said she will look to other programs for help if necessary.

At least 25 volunteers are needed to operate two teams of two patrollers, as well as a team leader/co-ordinator, each night. Blackwell plans to have a male and female work together on each team.

Funding for the project will come from the \$26,000 grant the college receives from the Ministry of Education and Training for women's safety on campus.

Kim Radigan, Conestoga's health, safety and environment co-ordinator, said about \$500 has been allotted for equipment needed for the foot patrol program, including flashlights, rainwear, whistles and possibly two-way radios.

Radigan said the ministry doesn't allow the grant to be used for wages in any of the projects.

Currently, the college's security staff will escort anyone to their

vehicle if requested often, however, the person will have to wait until the security guard on duty is finished rounds of the building or other duties before the service can be provided, said Blackwell.

Robert Gilberts, Conestoga's security supervisor, said his staff is asked to provide an escort about six times a week. He said he is supportive of the DSA's proposed program because it will free his officers for other duties if they aren't walking people to their vehicles. As well, he said, knowing the patrols are available will give students a sense of security when they stay late at night.

Blackwell said as people become aware of the program, she feels they will use it more often.

Although volunteer training has not been completely refined yet, it will include instruction on evaluating situations if they arise and how to respond to them, said Blackwell. The DSA will be assisted with training by the security department.

School can be smaller and smarter Conestoga could be better after cut-backs says Mullan

By Paul Tuns

Despite cut-backs in funding, Conestoga could come out a better school in the next few years says Kevin Mullan, vice-president of finance and administration.

"Because of the changes in the way things are done," Mullan said, "in the ways services and education are provided, the learning process could become better than it is now."

Mullan echoed Conestoga president John Tibbit's sentiment of (the college) becoming smaller and smarter.

Mullan said he sees a Conestoga that will provide education and services differently, and quite possibly more completely.

There will be a variety of teaching methodologies used that the college has barely tapped into, Mullan said.

A variety of audio, video, computer and paper tools could be used to supplement decreased teacher

contact.

Mullan said the utilization of a variety of learning processes is a better way to learn than just listening to an instructor lecture.

Teacher ratios will change, Mullan said, but it is quite possible that in some programs teacher-student ratios will actually decrease. In others, teacher-student ratios will increase and teacher-student contact will decrease.

Instructors could become what Mullan called "learning managers."

Instructors will guide students on how to use out-of-class resources such as audio or video tapes, computers or books.

Students will become more responsible for their own pace.

It is quite possible, Mullan said, that long-distance education or part-time education could be used in an off-term to lighten a heavier term.

The Conestoga Chapter of the Association for Systems Management presents the 'Internet Online'. A comprehensive hands-on online tutorial by our very own; Mike Tancsa from Sentex Communications, and Blair Robinson. Together, they will ease that fear of the Internet and arm you with the knowledge to 'surf' productively. This seminar is a one time offer, seating is limited, so sign up NOW.

WHEN? Sunday, February 18, 1996

8:00am to 12:00pm for Novice Users
12:30pm to 4:30pm for More Experienced Users

WHERE? Conestoga College, Doon Campus
Lab: 2A28

APPLICATION For ASM Internet Session

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Course: _____

Please answer these few questions for us to better serve you, (circle choice)

1. Do you have any Computer or Internet experience? YES / NO
2. What would you like to see covered? (i.e. IRC, The Web, Newsgroups, Provider services, ect)

Enclosed Payment for: (circle one)

Student ASM Member: \$15.00
Non-Student ASM Member: \$20.00
Faculty/Staff: \$25.00

Mail application to: ASM Student Chapter
c/o Conestoga College
299 Doon Valley Dr.
Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4

OR Drop off at our office
Room 1D14-B
in the new Business Wing

CONESTOGA LIFE

New club encourages responsible drinking

By Jennifer Broomhead

Conestoga students will be able to offer suggestions about how to encourage students to drink responsibly through the newly created Alcohol Awareness Club.

April-Dawn Blackwell, DSA vice-president of student affairs, is looking for students to help organize alcohol-free activities at the college.

Blackwell said the DSA has sponsored alcohol awareness events in years past, but she wants to get students more involved with creating and planning the activities.

The purpose of the club, Blackwell said, is to get input about what the DSA and students should do to raise awareness about drinking and driving, and about responsible drinking habits.

Blackwell said she thinks everyone benefits from an organization of this nature. She said she also wants students who don't drink to realize that they're not the only ones who are saying no. So far, two students have expressed an interest in joining the club, but Blackwell said she is planning to advertise a little more to make students aware of the club and what's involved.

"I just want to see where they would like to go and how involved they would be," she said.

Blackwell said the club will have some help from the alcohol education group BACCHUS, an awareness organization that works exclusively with colleges and universities.

With the help of corporate sponsors like Crispy Crunch, and with numerous pamphlets, booklets and posters, BACCHUS promotes alcohol awareness in schools across

Canada.

Last term, with the help of BACCHUS, the DSA sponsored a chugging contest, with the beverage of choice being milk or root beer. Also, Blackwell was involved with the Crispy Crunch banner-signing campaign to stop drinking and driving.

Conestoga's banner will be added to a "quilt" with other banners from colleges and universities in Canada that participated in the campaign.

Posters that Blackwell put up around the school with slogans like "Economics 101: The more you drink, the more goes down the drain" were widely popular with students last term, she said.

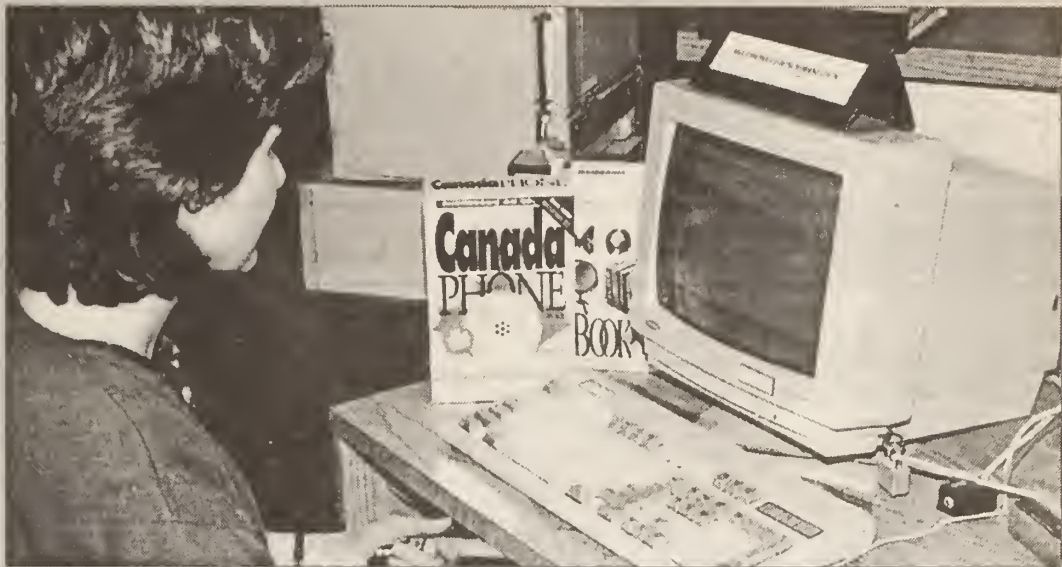
This term, the DSA will be selling the posters to raise money for future awareness activities. Blackwell is now busy preparing for Safe Break Awareness Week, an event designed to ensure students have a safe study break, whatever it is they may be doing.

Aside from selling posters, Blackwell said one event she would like to try is a "mocktail contest," where students can sign up to create a non-alcoholic beverage. Anyone is welcome to offer suggestions for other activities they would like to participate in.

"Student involvement is the best thing," Blackwell said. "So if a student wants to do something and we can, then we'll do it."

Blackwell said she is optimistic about the future of the club, and said she would love to see more people join, though she considers two members a good start.

Students interested in joining the club can leave their name with the DSA office, or arrange an appointment to see Blackwell.



Learning Resource Centre employee Cathy Potvin shows off one of the new CD Roms now available. The LRC is adding the latest in software to aid students with research. (Photo by Tara Brown)

LRC adds latest in computer software

By Tara Brown

Conestoga College's Doon campus learning resource centre (LRC) is slowly building up a collection of CD Roms for student use.

Cathy Potvin, library technician in charge of the CD Roms, said the CDs currently available are being added to and supplemented by two new acquisitions. The Canadian Business and Current Affairs (CBCA) CD is very heavily used by students doing research for various courses. Unfortunately, while the CD provides listings for articles relevant to the topic requested, it does not provide the full text of the articles and the LRC does not carry some of the papers and magazines listed.

"We had listings for these papers and people were asking for them," Potvin said. "We had to send people to other libraries."

The new CD Rom that will be the primary supplement to CBCA is Canadian NewsDisc. It carries all articles published in the Toronto Star, the Montreal Gazette, the Vancouver Sun and the Calgary Herald from Nov. 1, 1994 to Oct. 31, 1995.

"We have put in for 1996," Potvin said. The first instalment for this year's NewsDisc is expected in May. The 1995 version has just arrived in the LRC.

CanCorp is a database of 11,000 Canadian compa-

nies and is available at the front desk for use in the multi-media work station. Canada Phone is also available and provides a listing of every Canadian phone number, business and residential.

"Because it's business and residential, we anticipate people will be using it to find phone numbers for companies outside this area," Potvin said. Canada Phone is being tested by LRC staff to discover its full capabilities.

Although CD Roms are growing quickly in availability and popularity, Potvin doesn't think databases on CD will replace vertical files. "There will always be people who'd like to go to a file and browse," she said. The greater convenience of CD Roms over microfiche may give CDs the edge over the traditional form of periodical storage, however. People doing projects will be able to obtain an index from one CD database and then simply go and get another CD for the full text of the desired articles. Potvin doesn't think that CDs are ready to take over yet.


The cost for producing CD Roms is pretty high, she said, and many local papers, including the K-W Record, are not available on CD nor are they indexed on the CBCA. There is also a surcharge if the CD database is loaded onto a network to be accessed at all available terminals. Currently, the CDs may only be used at the multi-media work station in the LRC.

**Increase
your
word
power
Read spoke**

DSA 1996/97
Executive
Candidate

Speeches
12:30 pm
Thursday
Feb. 15

The Sanctuary



**DSA ELECTIONS
1996/97**

Positions Available
President
*Vice President of
Operations*
*Vice President of Student
Affairs*

Nominations
*Open from Mon. Jan. 22,
1996 at 9 a.m. until Thur.
Feb. 8 at 12 noon.*

**Nomination forms & information
packages on these positions can be
picked up at the DSA Office**

**DSA & The Roost Sports Bar Present
HOMEGROWN TALENT DAY**
Wed. Feb. 21st
at THE ROOST SPORTS BAR

CATEGORIES: (CIRCLE ONE) SOLO DUO GROUP

All entries must have a minimum of one full time student enrolled at
Conestoga College

ONLY ONE ENTRY PER STUDENT

**This is not a contest! It is a showcase of the talents of the students of
Conestoga College**

GROUP/ACT NAME: _____

Description: _____

Participants List

Name	Program	Student #	Phone #

Preferred performance time: _____

Registration Deadline: Thursday, Feb. 15th

CONESTOGA LIFE

Lifestyles editor: Samantha Craggs 748-5360

Alumni have access to financial services

By Tara Brown

Conestoga College alumni have access to an innovative program being offered by the alumni association and Ross Dixon Financial Services.

Pat Gilmour, the Cambridge Ross Dixon liaison person, said college alumni, as well as their spouses, may make use of several services specifically tailored to them.

"We offer a full range of services to college alumni," said Gilmour. These services include income tax preparation, RSPs and a wide range of investment opportunities including GICs and mutual funds.

Perhaps the service most graduates will find most practical and useful is the free financial planning for Conestoga graduates. Gilmour says she is able to create a plan for each individual's current financial status and aspirations.

"The more I know about a client

financially; where they've been, where they are and, most importantly, where they want to go, the better I can do my job."

After the plan has been drawn up, college alumni are not obligated to either begin the plan or stay with Dixon.

"It's something you have to be ready for," Gilmour said.

Calling the financial plan an "education process," Gilmour said it is very important that people make themselves informed about their money; particularly when they are in debt.

Things like credit cards and store credit cards have high rates of interest and need to be paid off promptly, she said. Most importantly, people must realize it's never too late to start investing.

"The best day to have started was yesterday, the second best day is today," said Gilmour. For mature students in particular, it is important to start as soon as possible to



Pat Gilmour of Ross Dixon Financial Services in Cambridge, said it's important that people are informed about their personal finances.
(Photo by Tara Brown)

earn the most interest possible. "You have to get your money working for you," she said.

For those students who may be interested in pursuing the program once they have graduated, Gilmour suggested setting up an appointment with her at her Cambridge office.

Income tax returns, pay stubs and a summary of all bills and debts will help with the financial planning. Gilmour said the program has a toll-free phone number students may call to ask for information. Should students move out of the Waterloo Region, their transactions can be transferred to a branch of Ross Dixon in the area they will be living.

Students interested in more information about the program should pick up a copy of Connections, the Alumni Association magazine or talk to Mary Wright in the alumni/employment/co-op office.

Convention presents entertainment from across Canada

Many talents involved in COCA

By Amanda Steffler

Ever wonder how Sue Johanson from Talking Sex with Sue, arrived one day in Conestoga College's Doon campus Sanctuary?

Sue, and other performers such as Gary McGill, who was at the school a few weeks ago, are both the result of the Canadian Organization of Campus Activities (COCA).

COCA is composed of two different parts, one being schools and the other performers.

Two conventions are held every year to showcase entertainers which include speakers, comedians and bands.

The larger convention of the two

will be held May 15 in Toronto. It consists of five days of viewing entertainers.

For example, there are about 25 in the music category, 12 comedy and six speakers. The smaller convention took place during November in St. Catharines. There were only 14 music, six comedy and four speakers. Gavin FitzPatrick, DSA executive, who has attended plenty of the conventions, said they enable school representatives to see what is going on in the entertainment scene.

"We can talk to other school reps to find out if there are any new and interesting performers," said FitzPatrick.

Members of COCA fund the conventions with a membership fee and an admission fee. Performers also pay to attend the conventions. FitzPatrick said people come from all across Canada.

Steve Geerts, DSA director of entertainment, has attended the conventions with FitzPatrick.

"You sit and watch a comedian, a speaker on AIDS and then you hear another comedian," said Geerts. "Your emotions are going up and down. It wears you out." Many times performers are hired through block bookings, which means more than one school in an area will hire them in order to make their trip worth while.

If they are coming from out of town, one performance in one single school is not going to cover their expenses for travelling to Kitchener.

For example, when Sue Johanson came to Conestoga she had about six other schools lined up throughout the week. FitzPatrick said they try to plan entertainers who are competent.

He said they also like to try things that are different since there is such a wide variety of students attending the Doon campus.

FitzPatrick said there will be a new performer. Shang, a comedian from L.A. will be performing at a nooner on March 6.

Computer program is good for UI recipients

By T.L. Huffman

The college's Cambridge campus now has a new introductory computer program for unemployment insurance recipients.

The program is Introduction to the PC and runs for 10 weeks at 25 hours per week. Students are to attend class five days a week.

The program contains a number of courses in various computing areas including computer literacy, the Disk Operating System, Microsoft Windows, WordPerfect, Lotus 1-2-3, computer hardware, buying a personal computer, and an overview of a network.

The program also consists of a number of practical training courses including time management, business communications, customer service, job search, and interview skills.

In order to be accepted into the program, a student is required to have completed Grade 10 math and English or an equivalent and be an unemployment insurance recipient.

It is preferred that a student have some computer knowledge and keyboarding skills.

The cost for the program is \$41.14 per day.

This includes all supplies, books, lab time, hardware, instruction and parking.

ARE YOU GRADUATING?

Jostens
Photography will be
at Doon Campus
Feb. 5th to 16th

Ask your class rep. to
schedule your class
TODAY!

Book appointments at
the DSA Office.





VALENTINE'S BASH

AT

WHISKEY JACK'S

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 13





\$3.00 in advance
\$5.00 at the door
Doors open at 8:00 pm
Tickets available at the DSA office

Find your famous mate for a free beverage!

ENTERTAINMENT

Ashley MacIssac astounds Lulu's crowd Generation X seems to love that fiddle music

By Diane Santos

Growing up with the Atlantic Ocean in your backyard is one advantage to being a native of Cape Breton Island, but the most renowned thing is playing traditional fiddle music.

Ashley MacIssac astounded the crowd at Lulu's on Friday, Feb. 2 when he came on the stage and fiddled his way into their hearts with his rendition of this ancient form of music.

Backed by his band, the Devil Knights, he played to a sold-out crowd, who impatiently awaited his arrival, sitting through the opening acts of the Mahones and Mary Jane Lamond.

With his trademark sunglasses on, MacIssac came to the audience with a beam of light centred on him, his fiddle, and his newly blond hair.

He kept telling the audience, "Let's have fun, we are in a Kmart store," before enlightening the audience with some Cape Breton trivia.

According to MacIssac, Cape Bretoners know how to fiddle, usually have an alcoholic beverage in their hand and always say, "hi, how are you today?"

concert review



Ashley MacIssac
Venue: Lulu's

MacIssac brought his version of Celtic music centre stage with the help of electric guitar player Stuart Cameron highland-dancing to the first song, Beaton's Delight.

He also graciously invited members of his family to come on stage and stepdance a little to his fiddle music.

MacIssac's music is not traditional, but native Cape Bretoners had no qualms about dancing to

his music at Lulu's.

Even though MacIssac is only 20, his music reached all ages. People danced in the

aisles and some of them were even doing their own versions of jiggling near the bars.

The dance floor was wall-to-wall bodies jumping up and down or moshing at the front of the stage.

MacIssac got so into his playing that by the fourth song the strings on his bow were already ripped.

With the occasional lyrics sung by Mary Jane Lamond, MacIssac

and his crew kept everyone's feet tapping to the beat, or else they were jiggling and stepping to the music.

The feedback off the fiddle became a little unbearable at times, but the overall performance outweighed the negative aspects and MacIssac performed with energy and vibrance.

Near the middle of his show he did a quick clothing change and finally put on his kilt, courtesy of his drummer.

Sporting the kilt, a baseball hat and sunglasses he ended his performance as vibrantly as he began and left the audience wanting more of his rare — albeit at times traditional — fiddle music.

Demi Moore gives gutsy performance Action and style can't hide predictability in *The Juror*

By J.C. White

The Juror, directed by Brian Gibson, is yet another court-related, good-against-evil drama.

Although this movie is quite exciting and stylish, it lacks impact because films in this genre are quickly becoming a dime-a-dozen.

The plot revolves around the murder trial of Louie Boffano, an infamous New York Mafia don, but the story is really about one woman's struggle for survival against the power of organized crime.

Demi Moore plays Annie Laird, an artistically dishevelled sculptor/secretary who is chosen as a juror for what seems to be the trial of the century — the possible conviction of the 'big spaghetti' (as Moore's teenage son calls him).

Oliver, Moore's son in the movie, is played well by Joseph Gordon Levit. He has a sincerity and gentleness that gives the mother-son relationship real depth.

Alec Baldwin's character Vincent, a Boffano family hitman, has the job of making sure Moore's character convinces the jury of Boffano's innocence — at any cost.

Vincent slithers his way into her life by way of her art, by passing

movie review



The Juror
Star: Demi Moore

himself off as Mark Cordell, art buyer extraordinaire.

With Baldwin and Moore as *The Juror*'s stars, one should be guaranteed at least a few classic *Malice*-type, "I don't act like God — I am God," lines from Baldwin, and the usual gutsy performance from Moore.

These two mega-stars don't let the audience down.

Baldwin's character is intense and evil, creating a tension which the audience can feel from the opening scene.

He bugs her home, and plasters his walls with pictures of her. He is a man obsessed, and he does it well.

Moore is back in the victim-role which served her so well in *Ghost*.

When Baldwin's character reveals his less than sincere motives, Moore delivers a *Ghost*-calibre performance, (minus the cute haircut) producing one single tear, which slides slowly and perfectly down

her left cheek.

Visually, the use of darkness and shadow is almost overdone in this film.

Baldwin's face is only half lit in most scenes, and it rains in virtually every scene.

Using light and weather (pathetic fallacy in literary terms) to reflect and intensify mood can be effective, but in this movie it felt like the director was pushing the mood a bit too far.

The Juror is a film about the weak becoming strong, and evil being destroyed. But there was something missing.

Perhaps it was the lack of depth in Baldwin's Vincent. Perhaps audiences have seen Demi Moore cry one too many times.

Overall, this movie was well planned, well thought out, and all the proper elements seemed to be there, but somehow it missed the mark.

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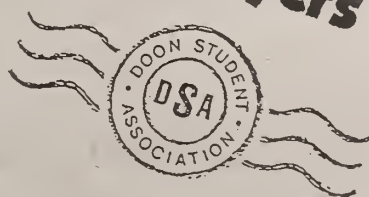
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ENTERTAINMENT

A big, hollow boom for director's first Hollywood feature *Desperado* a poor imitation of *El Mariachi*

By Judith Hemming

Robert Rodriguez's directorial debut, *El Mariachi*, which introduces the main character in *Desperado*, was a gripping entry in the shoot-em-up-faster genre.

A Mexican guitar player is mistaken for a gangster and must defend himself against mobsters without understanding why he is their target. Shot over 14 days on a \$7,000-budget with no second takes, the film impressed critics and was a winner at the 1993 Sundance Film Festival.

The success of *El Mariachi* whetted Hollywood's interest. Columbia Pictures gave Rodriguez an opportunity to tell a story, Hollywood-style. Enter the big-budget names: the Mariachi is now played by Antonio Banderas, one of

video review



Desperado
Star: Antonio Banderas

Mariachi's friends is played by Steve Buscemi (*Reservoir Dogs*, *Pulp Fiction*); Quentin Tarantino makes a cameo appearance.

Desperado is a disappointment after the engaging, playful quality of *El Mariachi*. In *Desperado*, the mysterious guitar player — now the stuff of legend — returns, this time on an unexplained vendetta.

While the video jacket cover says the Mariachi is "looking for vengeance against the men who murdered his girlfriend," those who watched the first movie know the Mariachi has already settled that score with finality.

There is no mistake that the two movies are intended to be a continuing narrative; Rodriguez ties the two films together by letting the Mariachi flashback to the final death scene, with Banderas taking the place of Carlos Gallardo, the original guitarist.

While a few scenes are so over the top they are farcical, the movie can't seem to decide what sort of tone it wants to take.

Gone is the captivating hand-held camera work of *El Mariachi* that pulled the viewer into the frantic chases. Gone are the enigmatic dream sequences that hint at the

internal turmoil of the gentle guitarist forced to kill to save his own life.

Instead, the impressive talent hinted at in *El Mariachi* seems to have been overwhelmed by the chance to play with big guns. The Mariachi has gotten over his previous reluctance to shoot. In one bar scene, he kills at least 15 villains by himself. Bullets are cheap — he empties two clips into one man alone.

It seems to be a toss-up over whether the poor acting hampers the poor dialogue, or whether the poor dialogue magnifies the poor acting.

One notable exception is Joaquim de Almeida (*Good Morning, Babylon*), who convincingly plays a temperamental, unreasonable Bucho.

The viewer can be excused for

feeling disgust when Bucho's identity is revealed. This scene reduces any shred of viewer tolerance by revealing the Mariachi's name as Benito, destroying the mystique built up around the character.

In the final scene, the Mariachi tosses his guitar case out of the car, vowing to stop killing people.

Don't worry, gentle viewer, he didn't suddenly catch a case of character development. A minute later, the vehicle reverses so he can retrieve it, "just in case."

If major plot discrepancies, a lack of consistency of tone, and unexplained character motivation don't hamper your viewing enjoyment, you might like *Desperado*.

But remember, your mother was right. Money — in the form of a Hollywood budget — can't buy you everything.

Horror author has gripping style

By Samantha Craggs

Forget Nancy Baker, forget Clive Barker and for heaven's sake, forget Stephen King. Within 10 years they will be bowing to the new mistress of horror, Poppy Z. Brite.

Reading Brite is like being 10 years old and sneaking a sexy romance novel from mother's dresser. The imagery is so real and the prose so delicious, it gives readers a forbidden thrill in the pit of their stomachs.

Brite's third novel, *Wormwood*, is a collection of short stories that have been published in magazines and anthologies like *The Horror Show*, *Borderlands* and *Women of Darkness*.

Her first novel, *Lost Souls*, was a whirlwind of sex, blood and rock and roll. *Drawing Blood*, her second novel, was brilliant with its powerful characters and strong lo-

book review



Wormwood
Author: Poppy Z. Brite

cal color. *Wormwood* is a combination of the two.

The stories range from sad to gory, but all are intriguing because they focus not on bogeymen, but on the horrors of the mind.

In *A Georgia Story*, the protagonist lives in an abandoned church with a beautiful, talented boy and later sees him in a carnival side-show biting the heads off rats.

In *His Mouth Will Taste of Wormwood*, Howard and Louis are arrogant thrill-seekers who rob the grave of a sorcerer only to run into him at a gothic nightclub.

In *Footprints in the Water*, a twin enlists the help of a young medium to bring back his dead brother.

What makes the book eerie is not the story lines but the description. Brite paints a believable picture, no matter how absurd the premise of the story, without boring us with pages of Dickens-like description.

Calcutta, *Lord of Nerves*, is an example of how Brite weaves a web of strong images, taking us to the darkest places in New Orleans, North Carolina, New York City and abroad.

Despite the complexity of the writing technique, the storylines are simple and easy to fall into. This makes *Wormwood*, like all of Brite's work, a quick read. Before you know it the book is over, and you wish there were 100 more pages.

Wormwood lacks the strong characterization of *Drawing Blood*, which is her best work. Maybe this can be attributed to her format — the short story — which doesn't allow time for any involvement.

Some of the stories, like *Angels* and *The Elder*, have absurd endings, but these are two of Brite's earlier works.

Wormwood did for me at 21, what *The Incredible Journey* did for me at nine and *The Bell Jar* did for me at 16. It drew me in with such force that I found it impossible to put down.

It's unbelievable that, even in 1996, when people hear the name Poppy Z. Brite they say "Who?" Well, horror fans and avid readers take note: Brite is the wave of the future.

Groove Daddys deliver

concert review



Groove Daddys
Location: The Sanctuary

Local artists rock the Sanctuary

By Amanda Weber

A Kitchener-based band, the Groove Daddys, played to a full house in the Sanctuary as part of the Winter Warm-Up '96 Week.

The hour-long performance on Jan. 30, was well received by the audience.

"It was great, but very loud," said Kelly White, a second-year Early Childhood Education student. "That was probably because I was sitting in the front."

The band, consisting of lead guitarist Rob Szabo, bass guitarist Paddy Flynn and drummer Jeff Cowell, played songs from their two albums, *Bottom Feeder* and *Sunburn*.

Aside from their own material, they also played Cheap Trick's *I Want You to Want Me*, putting their own unique spin on it.

Szabo and Flynn traded vocals throughout the show, with Flynn sounding like Green Day's Billie Joe, especially during the song *Rubber Neckin*.

During a break, Szabo referred to all of the photo-journalism students who attended the event,

and lamented his own lack of hygiene.

"We have played a lot of gigs, but this is the first one where we have had so many pictures taken. And I didn't even take a shower."

The Groove Daddys, who have been together for four years, released their first album, *Bottom Feeder*, in 1992.

Between songs, Szabo tried to get the audience involved in the show. He told them they could help to feed the band by buying an album or T-shirt.

"Or you could just buy us a meal," Flynn said.

They also joked with the crowd, telling them to keep the moshing down to a minimum because there were small people in the front who might have gotten hurt.

After the performance, Szabo sold their albums and T-shirts to eager students.

The Groove Daddys were a good kick-off to the festivities and many students in attendance said they believe this band will be going places in the future.

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SPORTS

Fighting Irish

Golden puck gives way to new challenges

By Blake Ellis

"Many are called but few are chosen," said Joel Washkurak, which pretty well sums up his hockey career.

Washkurak, a materials management student and a third-year veteran of the Conestoga Condors, brings a lot of experience to the Condors bench. Originally drafted by the Oshawa Generals, Washkurak played two years with the Kingston Frontenacs and a year with the Owen Sound Platers in the Ontario Hockey League. He then played a year in the East Coast Hockey League with the Johnstown Chiefs, a Boston Bruins' affiliate team.

"I've lost the dream of chasing the golden puck," he said of his quest to play in the National Hockey League.

"When reality has set in and you sort of see the end of the tunnel in your hockey career," Washkurak said, "you look for new challenges."

Taking on that new challenge, Washkurak has been refereeing in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association for the past year and hopes he can pursue a career in refereeing in the future.

A self-proclaimed "health-nut", he said he takes quite a bit of ribbing from his teammates. He trains quite a bit, which might of been

spurred on by his refereeing interests.

He said his career in the Ontario Hockey League and the East Coast Hockey League has taught him self-discipline and time management. He is also socially adaptable, having attended seven different schools because his father worked for the government and his family moved a lot.

Washkurak said his dad was always a big supporter of his hockey endeavors, always evaluating his play. Washkurak said his dad taught him "to be a good contributor and to be like the fighting Irish," don't let anyone push him around.

Washkurak said he was a hard-nose, gritty player in his Junior hockey days.

He admits, however, that he doesn't always play consistently. In some games, he takes nights off to hit and be physical, like in games against the Sir Sanford Fleming Auks on Feb 1.

In a third period fight with Fleming's Jeff Tubman, Washkurak didn't want to fight and ended up on the ice but the referee allowed the fight to continue and Washkurak had to come out swinging already at a serious disadvantage.

He does admit the Condors coaching staff is always after him to be more physical and not to take those nights off but he said his role



Veteran Condors forward Joel Washkurak sees refereeing as a way to keep hockey in his future. Washkurak played for three teams in the OHL and has spent three years with the Condors.

(Photo by Jason Romanko)

as a player has changed.

The 1994 Ontario Colleges Athletic Association most valuable player credits his strengths in hockey to his skating ability and physical strength.

He would also like to be a team leader, but admits he does mostly his own thing. He is amazed at what team Captain Brian Park does for the team in the leadership role.

Soccer teams gear up for finals

By Kean Doherty

You can't blame the coach of the women's and men's indoor soccer teams for being optimistic about his teams' chances at winning OCAA gold.

Geoff Johnstone, who takes on the dual role, said he can't see any reason why both teams can't win — especially the women's team.

In approximately 18 games this year, including tournaments and league play, Johnstone said they have yet to lose and have given up a grand total of two goals.

"They won a game recently by a 5-2 score. But they weren't happy about giving up those two goals, that's how competitive they are."

Johnstone said the women are successful in the five-on-five, hockey style game because of their conditioning and willingness to put the onus on themselves to compete and practise.

"I haven't been able to be at all their games or practices, but their commitment and dedication are unbelievable. They change their own lines at games and ensure that everyone makes it to practices."

The men's team, despite recent success, hasn't been as diligent in their training and overall play.

"There is a lack of gym time for the teams to practice, but the men don't take it upon themselves to stay in shape," said Johnstone.

Aside from Pat Barnes and a few others this team needs to be in better shape, from my viewpoint."

What Johnstone was alluding to

was the way the game is played and the demands it puts on individual effort.

He said the style of play is much like hockey, with line changes and quicker end-to-end play. "It's very different from the calmness of outdoor soccer."

As for future games and tournaments, Johnstone said he has put his teams in a variety of different tournaments to get ready for forthcoming regional tournaments and the men's and women's OCAA finals in late March at Conestoga and Redeemer colleges, respectively.

The Women's team is playing in

a tournament the weekend of Feb. 10-11 at Conestoga's recreation complex against undetermined university, under-19 and senior women's teams.

The two teams also compete in local leagues to hone their skills.

The women play Tuesdays at the Budd Park complex in Kitchener and Thursdays at the recreation complex. The men play Thursday evenings, also at the recreation complex.

The women's team faces Guelph at Budd Park Feb. 13, beginning at 8 p.m. The men play here Feb. 15, against Inter-pol at 7 p.m.

OCAA Varsity Hockey League Standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Cambrian	11	9	2	0	90	49	18
Conestoga	9	7	1	1	63	39	15
Seneca	10	4	4	2	54	54	10
Sault	8	2	4	2	41	52	6
S.S. Fleming (P)	7	2	5	0	35	50	4
S.S. Fleming (L)	9	0	8	1	41	80	1

LEAGUE RESULTS

Feb. 1	Conestoga	14	S.S. Fleming (L)	4
Feb. 2	S.S. Fleming (P)	5	Sault	8
Feb. 3	S.S. Fleming (P)	2	Cambrian	10

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SPORTS

Entertainment and sports editor: Kean Doherty 748-5366

National hockey finals
promise on-ice sizzle

By Kean Doherty

Spring break will be a distant memory come late March, but some sizzle on ice will give students and hockey fans something to cheer about.

From March 28-30, the two best college hockey teams in Canada will face off to determine a champion at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre. The winner will be decided in a best two-of-three playoff, starting on March 28.

Sandra Murray-MacDonell, an official at the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association (CCAA) offices in Ottawa, said it will be the first national championship for hockey held since 1989.

Murray-MacDonell said this championship will differ from others because it will be a level-two championship, which means it is not a traditional tournament play-down among four or six colleges, but a two-team playoff.

"There hasn't been a championship since 1989 because of budget cut-backs," said Murray-MacDonell. "We're hoping now that this championship will pave the way for it to become a yearly event again."

The two teams, one from the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) and one from the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC), will be determined from their respective conference championships.

The ACAC is traditionally a very strong conference, with three of its teams ranked in the top five nationally. They also have the luxury of a 22-game schedule, which gives its teams the advantage of more playing time over practice time.

The OCAA, because of distance between colleges, is relegated to a 14-game slate.

The powerhouses in the ACAC, as of Jan. 30, were the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) Ooks from Edmonton (ranked second nationally), the Red Deer College Kings (ranked fourth) and Mount Royal College Cougars (ranked fifth) from Calgary. The Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) Trojans were recently ranked nationally but fell out of the top five.

NAIT has had the most success at the national championships, winning four gold medals, the latest in 1989. Red Deer owns three gold medals and has the most overall

medals with six. SAIT and Mount Royal each have won one gold at the national finals.

In contrast, the last and only team from the OCAA to win a gold medal was St. Clair College in 1976. Seneca College, not ranked nationally, but who will get a chance to represent the OCAA this year, owns four CCAA hockey medals.

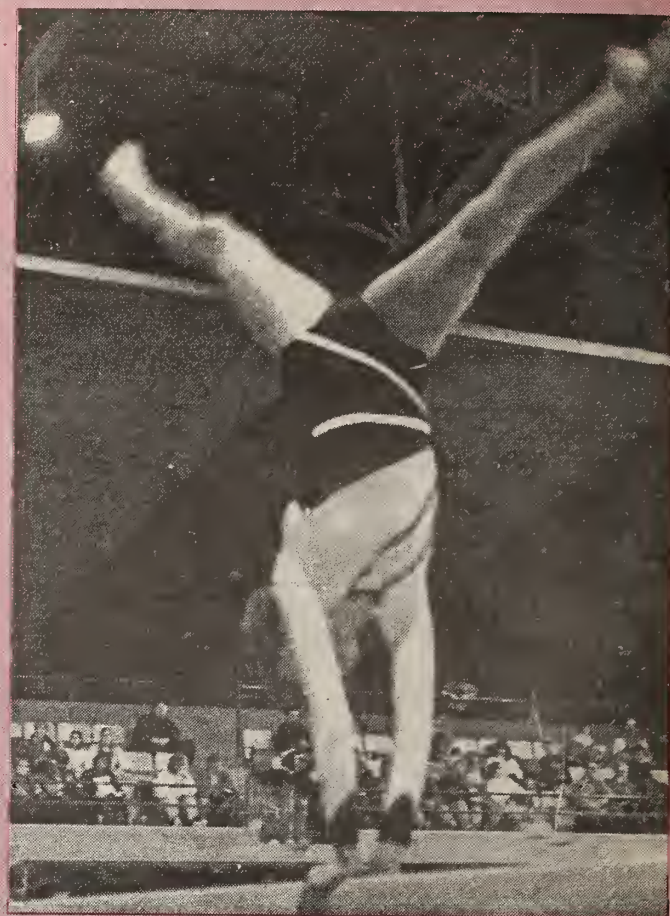
Despite a dearth in CCAA gold in past years from OCAA competitors, the Cambrian College Golden Shield lead the charge from the OCAA with a number-one national ranking, which they have held virtually all season.

Running a very close third are the Conestoga Condors, who have held the third ranking nationally for the last three weeks.

The OCAA championships, which will also be played at Conestoga College, should pit these two powerhouses against one another, barring an upset from either Seneca or Sir Sandford Fleming from Peterborough.

Whatever the outcome of the OCAA finals, the CCAA championship promises to be an exciting, action packed best two-of-three finale.

Steady now



Kim Zimmer, 13, of the Maple City Motor gymnastics team, practices before a competition at the Kenneth E. Recreation Centre on Sunday. The meet was organized by the Cambridge Kips gymnastics club.

(Photo by Jason Seeds)

OCAA
Athlete of the Week

Evan Anderson was named OCAA Athlete of the Week after scoring four goals and assisting on four others in a 14-4 over Sir Sandford Fleming (Lindsay) on Feb. 1. The eight points boosted Anderson's totals to 36 in only nine games this season and ranks him second behind Cambrian's Troy Caley in league scoring. The eight-point game is a season and team-high point total.

The Auks no contest for Condors

By Blake Ellis

On Feb. 1, the Conestoga Condors rolled into Lindsay, hometown of Hockey Hall of Famer Gordie Howe, to face off against the Sir Sanford Fleming Auks.

Conestoga showed the Auks what Howe did best, which was score goals, in a 14-4 blow-out. The Condors dominated the play right from the start, unlike the last time the Auks came to Kitchener and gave the Condors trouble before losing 5-2.

Right from the opening face off, Fleming's goalie Art Houghton saved two shots, but the puck found its way back to Conestoga's Dave Henry, who fired a shot from inside the blueline, beating a well-screened Houghton 30 seconds into the game.

About four minutes later, the Condors' Brent Cullaton weaved his way around the Auk defence and deked Houghton out to score his

first goal since returning from an East Coast Hockey League try-out.

A minute later, Steve Close rallied the Auks with a power-play goal, making the score 2-1. The Condors scored again with a goal by Graeme White about a minute later.

Houghton was then taken out of the net in favor of Shawn Price. It didn't seem to make a difference to the Condors as Evan Anderson made an attempt to score, but fell in front of the net. He took a swipe at the puck and was able to put it behind Price to make the score 4-1.

With about 5:30 left to play, Conestoga's Joel Washkurak took a pass from Jason Romanko and backhanded it into the net.

Just to prove the Auks hadn't rolled over and died, Fleming's Peter Sova intercepted a pass and beat Chris Marshall to end the first period 5-2. About five minutes into the second, Close scored again with a shot that deflected off of Marshall's pads.

Romanko scored two goals and Anderson netted one to end the second period at 8-3.

The Auks let their frustrations out in the third, with the Auks' Jeff Tubman being thrown out of the game after starting a fight with Washkurak.

Brian Park combined with Steve Lemieux and Dale Henry for three goals in the first half of the third to make it a 11-3 game.

Anderson and Wade Gower potted two more before Fleming's Nate Bender replied for the Auks with four minutes left to play.

About 30 seconds later, Anderson rocketed one behind Houghton, who had been put back between the pipes, to finish off a hat trick.

The Condors' next game is on Feb. 10 at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre at 3 p.m. against the Cambrian Golden Shield. The Condors then go on the road to face the Seneca Braves and Cambrian the following week.

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